



WISDOM
WISDOM



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子

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VOLUME 2

BY NARUMI SETO



HAMBURG // LONDON // LOS ANGELES // TOKYO



CHAPTER 3
MOVEMENT IN THE SHADOWS
008

CHAPTER 4
THOSE WHO WOULD BE PROTECTED
035

CHAPTER 5
RESOLVE
087

CHAPTER 6
THOUGHTS
101

FINAL CHAPTER
POINT OF NO RETURN
138



CHAPTER 6: MOVEMENT
IN THE SHADOWS



AAH
KARAKO
DID THEY
LEAVE
YOU
BEHIND?

WELL,
IN YOUR
PRESENT
CONDITION
YOU
OBVIOUSLY
WOULDN'T
HAVE
BEEN VERY
USEFUL.

YOLL?



SHUT UP,
SEIMEI!

GRR...



!!



I HAVE
EXCELLENT
MEDICINE
DRINK
IF YOU
CHOOSE

I'M AFRAID I
CAN'T DO
ANYTHING TO
HEAL YOUR
WOUNDS.
BUT I CAN
OFFER
SOMETHING
TO EASE
YOUR PAIN



YOU WILL
BE ABLE TO
WALK AGAIN
AS YOU
ONCE DID.



HOW NOW
YOU MUSTN'T
MOVE ABOUT
SO MUCH
WHY THE
GASSEMBLY
RUSH TO
EMBRACE
DEATH?

KUFF
KUFF

KUFF



THEN, YOU
CAN KILL
RANOU
WITH YOUR
OWN BARE
HANDS.



TAKATORU
AND THE
OTHERS JUST
LEFT BEFORE
LONG. THEY'LL
BE BACK WITH
RANOU'S HEAD
DANCING FROM
THEIR FINGERS.



I
DON'T
NEED
TO.

H
N
P
H.



HO
HO
HO

NOT ME
INSIDE THE BOX
THERE. STILL
LIVED THE
HUGE LITTLE
BOY.



WHAT?
YOU LIE!

TAKATORU'S
NO TRAITOR!
HE ISN'T
THAT KIND
OF MAN!



TAKATORU
WILL BETRAY
YOU RANOU.



DO YOU
BELIEVE
THAT?
CAPABLE
OF KILLING
BARODU
NO, ALLOW
ME TO
EXPLAIN
THAT...



DO YOU
BELIEVE
HE IS
WILLING
TO KILL
BARODU?



TELL
ME,
BARODU...

THAT THE
HIS
OPponent
IS A
FORMIDABLE
ONE, NOTHING
IS AS SIMPLE
AS IT SEEMS
BUT
DEALING
WITH
BARODU

DO YOU
THINK HIM
CAPABLE
OF REMAINING
TRUE TO
HIS MISSION
UNMOVED
BY OUTSIDE
INFLUENCES?



DAMMIT,
SEIHEI...

RRG...



YOUR
COY
WORDS
DO NOT
FOOL
ME!

I AM
SIMPLY
STATING
THE
TRUTH
AS I
SEE IT

WHAT
THE HELL
ARE YOU
PLOTTING?

PLOTTING?
ME? WHY,
NOTHING



I KNOW
YOU'RE
AFTER
SOMETHING!
TELL ME
WHAT
IT IS!"



TO DISCOVER
THIS TRUTH
IS TO REALIZE
THAT SOME
THINGS CAN BE
MANIPULATED
IN LIFE
AND DEATH

THE CHINESE
BELIEVED
YOU HADN'T BEEN
OUT HAVE YOUR
EVERY FLOWER
ALST BLOOM. JUST
AS ESSENTIALLY
IT MUST DIE. THAT
SAME INESCAPABLE
TRUTH APPLIES
TO ALL LIVING
THINGS



WHAT?

THE SEASON
FOR THIS
YEAR'S
BRYOU
IS ENDING.
I SEE



RAKOU
MUST BE
REMOVED.
THAT IS
ALL.

THE CAPITAL
IS LIKE A GIANT,
BLOOMING
FLOWER.
ONE THAT HAS
BEGUN TO WILT.

THOUGH DEATH
ISN'T LIKELY,
IS IT NOT BEST
FOR THE PLANT
IF THE FLOWER
IS SNIPPED BY
HUMAN HANDS?



KARAKO,
I BELIEVE IT
IS NOT YET
YOUR TIME
TO DIE.



OH COME!
WHAT IS
THERE FOR
YOU TO
FEAR?



DO YOU
NOT YET
UNDER-
STAND?

IF YOU DO
NOT, THEN
NO ONE
WILL.

YOU WILL
BE THE ONE
TO KILL
RAKDO. YOU
ARE THE
ONLY ONE
WHO CAN!



OR WOULD
YOU RATHER
WITHER
AND DIE...
AN INVALID
WRAPPED IN
BANDAGES?











NOT THAT I
PARTICULARLY
CARE



ALL
RIGHT
ALREADY



I GET
THE
POINT

I'LL GO
BACK, GRAY!
HAPPY
NOW?
JEEZ!



WHAT IS
THE...?



WHAT
WHERE
ARE
YOU--?



KEEP AN EYE
ON KAKURO!
FOR HE
WOULD NOT
HIT'S BEEN
ACTING WEIRD
LATELY























LOOKS
GOOD
ENOUGH
TO ME

ABOUT
TIME YOU
GOT BACK.
WELL?



DON'T WORRY
IT'S ALL SO
FINE. I MEAN
WE STILL
HAVE OUR
HOSTAGE.

YEAH THE
SOONER THE
BETTER
THE GUYS
PROBABLY
HIT BREAKING
POINT BY NOW
ANYWAY

SO
SOON?

WE'LL
MOVE
TODAY OR
TOMORROW



IT'S GOOD
TO HEAR
YOU SAY
THAT I
FEEL MUCH
BETTER
NOW

THIS
TIME
WE'LL
NAIL
HIM FOR
SURE!

BESIDES,
THE LONGER
THIS DRAGS
OUT THE
WORSE OUR
CHANCES
GET



AYANO?

I JUST
HAVE A
REALLY
BAD
FEELING

I GUESS
THIS
WHOLE
PLACE
IS JUST
GETTING
TO ME



I HEAR
I WAS A LITTLE
NOBBY
WATCHING
OUR WORKING
WITH A BOY
DOING HEAVY
TRAINING



I HOPE
YOU'RE
RIGHT.



THAT HAS
NOTHING TO
DO WITH
THIS!



EVEN THE
PEOPLE ARE
DIFFERENT
DIFFERENT
CLOTHES,
DIFFERENT
HAIR COLOR,
DIFFERENT
EVERYTHING

ALL THE
PERFECTLY
STRAIGHT
STREETS... ALL
THE BLOCKS
EXACTLY THE
SAME LENGTH...
IT'S JUST
SO ODD!

THEY'RE
GONE.
THEY'RE
NEVER
COMING
BACK.

STUPID,
I KNOW.

MAKES ME
THINK OF
EVERYBODY
BACK IN THE
MOUNTAINS...

WE WILL
AVENGE
THEM ALL.
I SWEAR!

I
UNDERSTAND

I COULD CUT HIM TO
PIECES AND STILL
NEVER FORGIVE THAT
BASTARD BUT RIGHT
NOW I CAN'T HELP
BUT FEEL THERE'S
SOMETHING ELSE
SOMETHING BEYOND
REVENGE...

DON'T GET
ME WRONG
I HATE
BARDO
TOO

NO YOU
DEFINITELY
DO NOT
UNDERSTAND

I REALLY
HOPE NOTHING
MESSES UP

SOMETHING

HOPE
THAT
NO ONE
MESSES
UP

WORTH



WHAT'S
SHE
DOING
HERE?!





AAH...!



AAH....!







OTOGI ZOSHI

Seimei gives Karako an ultimatum: He must decide between his own life and Raikou's. Worse, Karako loses everyone's trust when his confusion hits an all-time high...so high that he goes on a vicious onslaught that stands in the way of Hikaru's escape to freedom!

Based on the popular anime DVD series!



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2



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IT'S THE
REASON FOR
MY
FORM OF
THOSE
AGONY
IS DOES, I
SEEN DOWN
FOR SOME
NEW HELP
SOMEONE
I CAN'T LOST

CHAPTER 3 THOSE WHO WOULD BE DEFEATED



I GUESS I'LL
HAVE TO
NAME YOU
THEN AHH
I KNOW I'LL
CALL YOU

WHAT?
YOU
CAN'T
TALK?

SOUND
GOOD? GOOD
SO WHAT'S
YOUR NAME
KID?



MIKAZE!!









BECAUSE
OF
YOU!!

SINCE YOU
SHOVED UP
EVERYTHING'S
FALLEN
APART!



THIS
IS ALL
YOUR
FAULT!!!



MIKAZE
DIED ALL
BECAUSE
OF YOU!!



AND

STOP IT



IT'S
THANKS
TO THIS
LITTLE--

WHY?!



AYANO,
I SAID
STOP
IT!





NOW WHAT
DO I DO?
I NEVER
THOUGHT
ANYTHING
LIKE THIS
COULD
HAPPEN

SNIFE...



NEVER
THOUGHT
ANYONE
WOULD
DIE BECAUSE
OF ME



1

DOING WELL
DOING WELL

HOW
IS HE?



YES?

DOCTOR?



IN FACT, HE'S
DOING MUCH
BETTER THAN
EXPECTED, GIVEN
THE SEVERITY OF
HIS WOUNDS. I AM
SURPRISED HE IS
ABLE TO MOVE
AROUND AT ALL.

ESPECIALLY
CONSIDERING
THAT HE'S ONE
ON HIS RIGHT
FLANK, AND A
DEAR HIT HIM.
IT WOULD NOT
HAVE LEFT SO
TERRIBLE A
WOUND.

YOU HAVE
QUITE THE
IMPRESSIVE
SON, YOUR
LORDSHIP.



HA
HA
HA

O-OH,
IS THAT
SO?



HA HA. IF
I DID NOT
KNOW BETTER,
I WOULD THINK
HE HAD JUST
DONE BATTLE
WITH DEMONS
OR SOMETHING.



FEVER, ?



WELL, BATTLE
AND WAR ARE
THE DUTIES OF
YOUR CLAN, AND
AS SUCH, YOU
ARE MADE OF
STRONGER STEEL
THAN THE REST
OF US. I AM SURE
HIS INJURIES
WILL HEAL
SPLENDIDLY.

HOWEVER,
HIS FEVER
WORRIES ME.



THE
PLAGUE .?!



IF IT DOESN'T
GO DOWN IN
THE NEXT
FEW DAYS, WE
MAY HAVE TO
CONSIDER THE
PLAGUE.

IT ISN'T
LIKE ABO OF
FOR BRUISING
TO CAUSE
FEVERS IN A
PATIENT, BUT
EVEN SO, HIS IS
VERY HIGH.



WE DON'T
KNOW FOR
CERTAIN
IF THAT
THIS IS THE
CASE.

NOW,
NOW.



OH, GODS
HAVE
MERCY. I
MY SON!



LET ME
OBSERVE HIS
CONDITION
OVER THE
NEXT FEW
DAYS.



!!

TSUMA!



DO NOT
BOTHER.
FORGET
ABOUT
HIKARI.



WHERE
ARE YOU
GOING?

TO FIND
HIKARI-
TSUNA.

FOR
E-KOU-
SAMAS
SAKE SHE
MUST BE
FOUND
QUICKLY!



IT HAS
BEEN DAYS
SINCE SHE
WAS TAKEN,
TSUNA.

I
EXPECT...

MY
LORD
?!



...HIGARU-
SAMA
DEAD?



...SHE
IS LONG
SINCE
KILLED

...KILLED?



WHAT?

...I WILL
FIND HER,
MY LORD,
I SWEAR!!



THERE
ARE MORE
IMPORTANT
THINGS
TO WORRY
ABOUT!

WHYTHEN
YOU
MUST
HAVE
HEARD



SHOOOP



I KNOW
THAT ISN'T
THE FUNNY
STUFF
YOU'RE USED
TO BUT IT'S
ALL WE'VE
GOT SO
DEAL

THE
SHIRT YOU
HAVE ON
NOW HAS
FILTHY
THOUGHTS



WE'RE
CHANGING
YOUR
CLOTHES

...YOU
HURT?

NO





HE DIED
RIGHT
IN FRONT
OF ME!

AND
IT'S
ALL MY
FAULT
HE'S
DEAD!!



IT DOESN'T
MAKE ME
FEEL ANY
BETTER!



WHY DO
YOU KEEP
SAYING
THAT!!



NO!
YOU'RE
WRONG!



I AM NOT
WRONG!



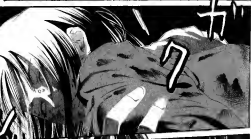
WHY ARE YOU
ALWAYS SO
NICE TO ME?!



OH
THAT'S
RIGHT.



SHE WAS
KILLED
WHEN
THE
VILLAGE
WAS
BURNED



SHE'S
GONE

FOREVER







THANKS.



...I'M SO
SORRY.
I NEVER
MEANT
FOR...





TAKATOOL?



...HE'LL
MAKE IT
TO THE
YELLOW
SPRINGS
WITH A
SMILE ON
HIS FACE.



I'M
SURE...



WITH A
PRETTY
GIRL LIKE
YOU CRYING
OVER HIM.



Moooo



SHUT

C'MON, YOU
USELESS
BEAST...
NINJA,
MOVE!

GOODS AND
ANDREWS
WHY ARE
TODAY
TO BE SO
BYLORIAN...
HIDE...
WHEN I'M
ALREADY
LATE.
HMM?



MM?



THERE ARE
NOTHING TO
DO THAT
BEAST IS AS
STUBBORN AS
YOUR WIFE!

HA HA, HA!
GIVE IT UP,
FRIEND!

COME
NINJA...
OH I'M
GOING
TO GET
YELLED
AT AGAIN!

DAMMIT! GO
AHEAD AND
LAUGH! YOU'RE
NOT THE ONE
WHO'S—



WHERE
IS...
RAIKOU?



R-RAIKOU?
HH DONT
KNOW ANY
RAIKOU!



ER,
RAI
KOU



UWAH!!

HH WHO
ARE
YOU?
WHAT
DO YOU
WANT?



HAS HE
GONE
MAD...?

DID YOU
SEE
THAT?!









I'M SORRY.
I HAVE SUCH A
BAD FEELING
ABOUT THIS.

THANK YOU.



I MEAN, HE'S
STILL OUT
THERE! RIGHT
NOW, THIS
VERY MINUTE,
HE'S HUNTING
FOR MISAHA!
HE'S GOING TO
KILL HIM!

JUST
CAN'T
SIT HERE
AND DO
NOTHING?



WAS IT
REALLY
KARAKO?



ANSWER
ONE THING
FOR ME,
WOULD
YOU?



... I SEE.



LIM...
TAKATOKI...



NEXT TIME
I SEE YOU.
WE'RE
GOING
TO BE
ENEMIES,
RIGHT?



AINT
NOBODY LL
STOP YOU
FROM
GETTING IT

DONT WORRY
IF IT'S
SOMETHING
YOU REALLY
WANT.



YOU
BETTER
BE
GONE



L I DON'T
WANT
THAT!
I'D HATE
THAT!



YOU'LL
MAKE
SOMEONE
A GOOD
WOMAN
SOMEDAY.







WITCH
WITCH

I SIMPLY
CANNOT!!

FWSSSH

I CANNOT
BELIEVE
HIKARU-
SAMA IS
DEAD!

I HAVEN'T THE
SLIGHTEST
IDEA OF
WHERE TO
BEGIN MY
SEARCH.

TO FEEL SO
GUILTY, WELL,
AND GOOD! IF
I FEAR THE
REALITY OF
THE SITUATION
WILL BE FAR
HARDER TO
PROVE.

UNBELIE-
VABLE!!



CHAPTER 5: RESOLVE





YOU'RE
AA, KIND OF
ATTRACTING
ATTENTION

UM, TSUKI?
WOULD
YOU SET UP
PLEASE?



HIKARI-SAMA,
YOU MUST
RETURN HOME
QUICKLY. I
BEG OF YOU!



YOU DON'T
HAVE TO
APLOGIZE,
TSUKI. IT'S
NOT YOUR
FAULT.

I'M SORRY
FOR
MAKING
YOU
WORRY
SO MUCH.



A THOUSAND
APPS. GOES
FOR MY
FALLER.
I ALLOWED
YOU TO FALL
INTO SUCH
DANGEROUS
HANDS!

I AM
PROFOUNDLY
RELIEVED
TO FIND YOU
UNHARMED
MY LADY!



RAIKU-
SAMA
IS...!









HOW YOU
MUST
CONCENTRATE
ON EATING
LOTS OF RICE,
AND GETTING
WELL AS
SOON AS
POSSIBLE.

WORRY
NO MORE,
NISAMA,
I'M FINE.



I'M SORRY,
NISAMA.

YOU
MUST HAVE
BEEN SO
CONCERNED
FOR ME.

YOU DON'T
KNOW HOW
HAPPY I AM
TO SEE YOU
SAFE.

I SEE
YOU ARE
WELL...



I HAD A
DREAM LAST
NIGHT OF
WHEN WE
WERE BOTH
CHILDREN.

WHAT?



EVERY-
THING WAS
WONDERFUL
BACK THEN
WE WERE SO
INNOCENT
LIFE WAS
FUN.

AND IT'S
DIFFERENT
NOW?



THIS IS THE
LEAST I
DESERVE
FOR WHAT
I'VE DONE.

HIKARU,
IT DOESN'T
MATTER
WHAT
HAPPENS
TO ME
NOW.



IF ONE
DOES NOT
KNOW
ANYTHING,
THERE IS
NO NEED
TO LIE.

IF YOU SO
CHOOSE,
IT IS VERY
POSSIBLE
TO LIVE IN
BLISSFUL
IGNORANCE
HERE IN THE
CAPITAL.



SO LONG AS
IT WAS FOR
THE GOOD OF
EVERYONE
BUT IN THE
END I STILL
COULD NOT
PROTECT
YOU.

I
THOUGHT
I THOUGHT
IT WAS
OKAY.

NISAMA.



TO YOU
TO FURTHER
ENJOY TO
MYSELF.

YES, IT IS
DIFFERENT
NOW. I'VE
TOLD YOU
MANY LIES
ABOUT
TODAY'S
THINGS.



BUT,
NISAMA,
L.



AS ALL
I EVER
WANTED.

HIKARI...
ALL I
WANT IS
FOR YOU
TO BE
HAPPY.



HIKARI

I WANT
YOU TO
BE HAPPY
AS WELL!
MORE THAN
ANYTHING!



I
LOVE
YOU
TOO!



DONT
JUST
GIVE UP!

PLEASE
PLEASE
STOP
TORTURING
YOURSELF
LIKE THIS!



PLEASE





KARAO
KILLED
AKAZE
THAT
MUCH IS
CERTAIN.



WELL...



STILL,
THERE IS
SOMETHING
REALLY
WEIRD
ABOUT ALL
THIS, DON'T
YOU THINK?

...OH



HN?

TAKATOKU...



THAT'S ONE
MYSTERY
TOO
MANY TO
SHALLOW
WENT

TOOK HIS
SPEAR WITH
HIM, TOO
HE'S GOING
AFTER
KARAO BY
HIMSELF

.....



I WONDER YOU
KNOW HOW
BAD KARAO'S
INJURIES
WERE. HOW
COULD HE
KILL AKAZE
WHEN HE
CAN BARELY
WALK?





WHO CARES ABOUT REVENGE? THE ONLY THING THAT MATTERS IS BEING WITH YOU.

TAKATOKI, LET'S GO HOME. IF WE STAY HERE, WE'LL DIE.



THERE'S FAR TOO MUCH LEFT FOR US TO DO.

WE'RE NOT LEAVING YET.



BESIDES, WHEN WE FIND KARAKO, YOU CAN BET RANDOLPH WON'T BE FAR AWAY.

KARAKO KILLED MIRAZEL, BUT HE WAS ONCE A FRIEND. I'M NOT GOING TO ABANDON HIM.



SO LET'S RUN AWAY AND LEAVE KARAKO TO DIE?



*WASH YOUR
FACE*

*WASH YOUR
FACE
WASH YOUR
FACE
WASH YOUR
FACE*

BATHING?



THIS
IS THE
TIME WE
FINALLY
BRING
THIS TO
AN END



IF KARAKO'S
SO IMPORTANT
TO YOU...



EVERY TIME
YOU PICK
SOMEONE,
IT'S NEVER
ME!

...THEN WHY'D
YOU BRING
THAT GIRL
HERE? IT'S
HER
FAULT THIS
HAPPENED!
ALL OF IT!



IF YOU
WANNA
GO HOME,
GO BUT
YOU DO SO
ALONE



TAKATOKI
..!



ALL I'VE
EVER
WANTED..
IS YOU



ALL I
WANTED..

..OH,
GODS!



HO
HO
HO
HO



WHAT IS SO
WRONG WITH
RUNNING AWAY
INTO THE
MOUNTAINS
WITH A
BEAUTIFUL
AND WILLING
WOMAN?

WHAT A
TERRIBLY
BORRISH
THING TO
SAY



I REALLY
DON'T
FEEL LIKE
PUTTING UP
WITH YOU
RIGHT
NOW.

GET LOST
OR I'LL
BREAK THAT
MASK AND
THE FACE
UNDERNEATH.



SHIT
WE
I
SHIT



I SEE.

SO, KAKAKO
DID
TAKE HIS
MEDICINE.



WHAT?!



WHY
YOU...

HE WHO DRINKS
IT WILL,
WITHOUT
FAIL,
LOSE ALL
GRASP OF
REASON.



BUT WITH
RELIEF
COMES A
PRICE, FOR
IT ALSO
CAUSES
ILLUSIONS.

THE
MEDICINE
IS QUITE A
POTENT ONE.
IT CAN DULL
ALMOST
ANY PAIN.



HEY, WHY
YOU TRULY
DO NOT
UNDERSTAND
ANYTHING,
DO YOU?

BASTARD!
YOU MADE
HIM TAKE
DANGEROUS
CRAP LIKE
THAT?!



YOUR
RACE IS DOOMED,
TAKAYORI. THERE
IS NO LIGHT THAT
YOU...

NOR
KARAKO.
NOR ANYONE
CAN DO TO
CHANGE
THIS.



YOU HAD THE
OPPORTUNITY,
BUT YOU
FAILED TO
KILL KAKOLU.

KARAKO
WAS LIKELY
FEELING
HE HAD NO
CHOICE BUT
TO DO IT
HIMSELF.

WHAT
...?



I DID NOT
MAKE
HIM DO
ANYTHING.
I SIMPLY
SAVED
HIM.

TO DRINK
OR NOT TO
DRINK. THAT
WAS ENTIRELY
KARAKO'S
DECISION.



?!?

BASTARD!
I'LL--

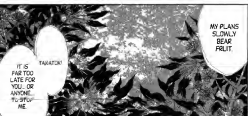


SEIMEI!
WHERE
ARE YOU?!

HO
HO
HO
HO...



DAMNIT!



IT IS
FAR TOO
LATE FOR
YOU... OR
ANYONE
TO STOP
ME.

TAKATOKI

MY PLANS
SLOWLY
BEAR
FRUIT.



SEIMEI...

.....







BY THE
GODS...
THEY
DARE?

"WHERE IS
RAIKOU?"



THE DEMON
IS SUPPOSED
TO HAVE SAID
SOMETHING
INTERESTING.



BUT THE
DEMON
ARRIVES
AT A POINT
WHERE EVEN
WE CANNOT
SLEEP
PEACEFULLY
AT NIGHT.

IT IS HARDLY
A MATTER
OF CONCERN
HOW MANY
PEASANTS
DIE.

WE CARE NOT
FOR YOUR
CONNECTION
TO THE
DEMON.

HOWEVER, IT IS
MANIFESTLY
CLEAR THAT
IT'S PRESENCE
IN THE CAPITAL
IS YOUR
RESPONSIBILITY.



THAT RAIKOU
IS ILL, AND
BEDRIDDEN.

OH YES I
HAVE HEARD
SOME OTHER
RUMOR
IT CLAIMS.



UNDERSTOOD
MY LORD.
WE SHALL
DESTROY THIS
DEMON AT
ONCE.

WHAT A
MESSAGE
THIS HAS
BECOME.



MY LORD,
I CAN
ASSURE
YOU...

THERE IS
NO TRUTH
TO SUCH A
ILLUOR.

GLADLY,
MY LORD!



IS THAT
SO? THEN
YOU WILL
PERFORM
THIS TASK
FOR ME?



HE IS
BUSHI!

YOU CAN
NEVER BE
CERTAIN
WHAT
THESE
"WARRIORS"
ARE
PLOTING.



IS IT WISE
TO TRUST
ONE SUCH
AS THAT?







ALWAYS
THERE TO
SUPPORT ME
AND MY
DREAMS...

THE
MISAMAT
KNOW...



HIKARI-
SAMA...

WHY CAN'T
SOMEONE
ELSE GO
IT? THERE
ARE LOTS
OF OTHER
PEOPLE WHO
CAN DEFEND
THE CAPITAL!



WHY DOES
IT HAVE
TO BE MY
MISAMAT?

WHY DOES
HE HAVE TO
BE THE ONE
TO GO OUT
AND FIGHT?



WHAT...?

...WHEN
HE
FIGHTS...
HE DOES
IT FOR
YOU.





HIKARU-
SAMA...

I MEAN,
THEY
HAVE
THEIR
REASONS...

...FOR DOING
WHAT THEY
DO, RIGHT?



BUT... BY
PROTECTING
THE ONES
WE LOVE...

... DOES IT
THEN MAKE
IT OKAY TO
TAKE AWAY
ANOTHER'S
LOVED ONES?



I MEAN, WITH
EVERYTHING
SO MIXED
UP, HOW CAN
EVERYONE
EVER BE
HAPPY...?

IT IS
ALL SO
HARD TO
UNDER-
STAND.



THIS MAY
WELL
NEVER BE
THE CASE.



EVEN SO,
WE STILL
MUST
CHOOSE.



TSUNA...



I'VE ALWAYS
BEEN PROTECTED
BY OTHERS, LIKE
HISAHARA AND
TSUNA.

I'M SURE
THEY'VE
SHIELDED
ME FROM
MANY
THINGS
I'LL NEVER
FORGET.

NO,
IT'S
OKAY.

OH,
APOLOGIES, MY
LADY. I HAVE
OVERSTEPPED
MY BOUND-
ARIES.





THEY
EXPECT US
TO FRAGILE
MOUND
HUNTING A
DEMON AT
A TIME LIKE
THIS?

IS IT TRUE,
MITSUNAGA-
SAMAH?



SILENCE!
DON'T YOU
THINK I
ALREADY
KNOW
THAT?!

IT IS TOO
DANGEROUS.
MY LORD A
DEMON IS NOT
SOMETHING
TO BE FACED
AT HALF-
STRENGTH.



NOW IT'S
MY TURN
TO PROTECT
THE THINGS
MISAKI HAS
FOUGHT FOR.

FATHER...



BUT,
MY
LORD.

NO MATTER OUR
IMPOVERISHED
CIRCUMSTANCES,
WE CANNOT
TOLERATE ANY
PROSPECT OF
FAILURE!



BUT THE
EYES
OF THE
CAPITAL
FOCUS ON
THIS ONE
BATTLE.

I
WILL
GO.

WATCH OVER
ME, NAYSAMA.
I PROMISE TO
MAKE YOU
PROUD



WITCH
WITCH

HIKARU-
SAMA...?



HIKARU...
YOUR
CLOTHES!



WE MUST
MEET HIM
HEAD-ON!



WE MUST
STOP HIM
BEFORE
MORE
INNOCENTS
ARE HURT!

FATHER,
THEY...

...NO, HE
WILL COME
HERE. I
KNOW IT'S
US HE'S
AFTER.





BUT
HAPPILY
GIRL
THIS IS NO
CHILD'S
GAME!



RAIKOU!

ANGH



WISDOM'S
CONCEPT IS
WORTHY! BUT
I DON'T
SEE THE
POINT OF
STANDING UP
IS SO HARD
FOR HIM

BAHHAHA



A HINDU
YOU
ALRIGHT?



I AM YOUR
LITTLE
SISTER,
AFTER
ALL

DON'T
WORRY,
NISANA
I'LL BE
FINE



TSUNA,
GO WITH
HIKARU.
WATCH
OVER HER.



HIKARU...



...AND HERE
STILL FIT
ENOUGH TO HOLD
A SWORD,
WOULD
THIS BE
NECESSARY?

OR HAVE
YOU A
BETTER
IDEA?



...!!



FATHER,
YOU
CANNOT...!

SILENCE!
IF YOU
HADN'T
BEEN
SUCH A
FOOL...

PLEASE...
DO NOT DO
ANYTHING
RASH...

AKABU!



...WHERE?!

RAI...
KOLL





WHO COULD
HAVE
PREDICTED
IT WOULD
COME TO
THIS?



I MUST
PROTECT
HER—EVEN
AT THE COST
OF MY OWN
LIFE!



HIKARU...

YOU HAD
BETTER
NOT DIE.



I DON'T
KNOW
HOW
MUCH
I CAN
DO, BUT
I CAN'T
RELINQUISH
MY DREAMS
NOT EVEN
THIS



SO THIS IS OUR
DANCE, AFTER
ALL THE BLOOD
WAS DROPPED
IT WOULD
BE ONE OF THESE
THAT

COULD THIS
REALLY BE
DISCONNECTED
FROM THE
MONEY
ATTACK?

MOVE.

WAIT!

HIKARU
SANA.

MY NAME
IS RAIKOU
MINAMOTO!

HEAR
ME,
DEMON!



THE RAIKOU
YOU'RE
SEARCHING
FOR STANDS
BEFORE YOU!



HIKARI-
SAMA!



RAI-KOU_7







...BUT POWER
IS ALL IT IS! HE
HAS NO SKILL!



YOUR
GUARD IS
FULL OF
HOLES!





NINGK!



WHAT
...?!



GLARE



TSLNA,
WATCH
OUT!



ALL
TEACH
YOURSELF

FOR
SOMEONE OF
YOUR SIZE
AND BUILD
TO HOLD
A SWORD IS
A MISTAKE

FRANK'S IN
TROUBLE!

STILL
BE
ONLY I
CAN DO
THIS...

SURPRISE

HE
NEEDS
SOME
BACKUP

YOU
THERE!!
HOLD!!

HAVE YOU
FORGOTTEN
ALREADY?
AM YOUR
OPONENT!!

HIKARI-
SANA!



RAIKOU!!!!



WHY
DESTROY
US?!

...ACK...



HAVE TO
MAKE THIS
COUNT!

HAVE
THE
COURT!





RRAAH!!



ACK!



HIKARU-SAMA! RUN
WHILE YOU
CAN! THIS
MAN IS NOT
SANEN!



I HEAR YOUR
BATTLE IS NO
PLACE FOR
INDECISION!

TSUNAMI



CONTEND
RIGHT NOW!



HIT



GAA



GRAAHN



SOBS / WE
CAN STILL
ACHIEVE
HOW CAN
THIS BE?



RA





.....
71



...HEY.







H U R R R R R ...

H U R R R R R ...



KARAKO.



!!



RAINOU
AINT
HERE

GET A
GRIP ON
YOURSELF,
MAN



YOU'RE BLEEDING!



.....



R
A
A
H!!

STOP!
DON'T
MOVE,
YOU
IDIOT!



KARAO!

KARAO!
SHUNT,
MAN,
STOP!





KARAKO!!









KARAMO



YOU
RECOGNIZE
ME
NOW...?

TA
TA
KA...



...WOWZE...

WE
COULDN'T
SAVE HIM.



SHIT
DON'T
TRY TO
TALK!

BUT...
I THINK...



WHERE...?

...AM...?





IF WE'RE
NOT THERE
BY DAWN,
YOU GO ON
WITHOUT US



THAT'S A
LITTLE
HARSH. I
WOULD JUST
SLOW ME
DOWN, IS
ALL

WAIT FOR US
DOWN BY THAT
BIG WINDMILL-
RECALL IT'S GITE
SOUTH OF
HERE



RELAX,
WE'LL BE
THERE

I DON'T
WANT
TO GO
ALONE

TAKA-
TORI



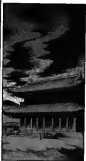
YOU'D
BETTER
BE
THERE!

I'LL BE
WAITING
FOR YOU!

YOU'D
BETTER!



I'LL BE
WAITING
FOR
YOU...!!

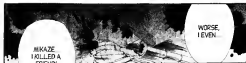


I
DOUBTED
YOU



TA
TAKATOKU

YEAH?



MIKAZE
KILLED A
FRIEND!

WORSE,
I EVEN



ENOUGH!



I'M
SORRY

DON'T
TALK
TO ME
ANYMORE



WE HAVE A
DIFFERENT
ENERGY NOW

IT'S NOT
YOUR
FUCKING
COLORADO



..THANK
YOU I'M
GLAD YOU
CAME

TAKA-
TOKI..



YOU YOU
STAY AWAY
FROM
HIKARU-
SANA!

WHA-
DOWN
BOY I
JUNT
DOING
ANYTHING



..GGG



HEH I BET
THE TWO
OF US MAKE
A PRETTY
SORRY SIGHT
RIGHT NOW

..YOU
OKAY?



TAKATOKI...

WE'VE BEEN
ORDERED TO
KILL THIS
MAN.



I'M
LEAVING
THIS
PLACE
AND HE'S
GOING
WITH ME.

NO WHY AM
TURNING
HIM OVER
NOT EVEN
TO KILL.



I THINK THAT
WOULD BE
FOR THE
BEST.

I
KNOW.

A close-up of Hikaru's face, looking slightly to the side with a serious expression. He has long, dark hair.

HIKARU-
SAMA, I

I MUST
DISAGREE.

A medium shot of Hikaru and a young boy. Hikaru is on the left, looking towards the boy on the right. The boy has dark hair and is looking back at Hikaru.

!?

A low-angle shot focusing on Hikaru's legs and feet. He is wearing dark pants and boots. The ground is rocky and uneven.

YOU THERE
YOU MUST
BE RAIKOU
MINAMOTO.



YOU HAVE
BEEN
CHARGED
WITH THE
DUTY OF
KILLING THE
DEMON.



FOR THE
GOD OF THE
CAPITAL, DO
YOU REFUSE
TO OBEY?





WITCH
WITCH



IS THIS
ALL PART
OF YOUR
PLAN?

WHAT
IS THE
MILITIA
DOING
HERE?!



OUR ORDERS
ARE TO
SUPERVISE
THE DEMON'S
ERADICATION.



FINAL CHAPTER:
POINT OF NO RETURN



WE AWAIT A
THOROUGH
DISPLAY OF
YOUR TRUE
LOYALTY.





THIS IS NOT
ONLY HER FIRST
COMMAND.

IT'S HER
FIRST BATTLE!
IT'S A MIRACLE
SHE REMAINS
UNSCATHED!
HOW CAN SHE
POSSIBLY
REALIZE...



GOOD MIRAI-
SUNA CAN'T
POSSIBLY DO
WHAT THEY'RE
ASING.



WHAT
IT TRULY
MEANS
TO BEAR
THE NAME
"RAIKOU"

MY LORD, A
MOMENT!



GRANT ME
THE HONOR
OF FACING
THE DEMON
ALONE!!
BESIDE YOU!

I AM
WATANABE
NO TSLINA,
FOREMOST
AMONG THE
SERVANTS
OF RAIKOU
MINAMOTO.



TSUNA...



BUT...
WHY...?



TO ACCEPT
SUCH A
REQUEST
WOULD RENDER
THE SITUATION
MEANINGLESS.
ALL BUT
RASOU MAY
WITHDRAW.



HOW DARE
YOU LOOK
AT ME LIKE
THAT!

INSOLENT
CUR! REMEMBER
YOUR PLACE!



DID YOU
NOT HEAR
ME, YOU
DISREPUTABLE
MISTRESS?
I SAID
WITHDRAW!

IT IS FAR
TOO GREAT
AN HONOR
FOR A JIGRO
SERVANT!

RRG





LISTEN
UP,
GUYS!

IF YOU
WANNA FIGHT,
LET'S FIGHT
ALREADY!!
ALL YOUR
JABBERING IS
MAKING MY
SKIN ITCH!!

COME
ON!!



WH-
WHAT..?



WHAT'S
THE
MATTER?

YOU
WIMPING
OUT ON
ME? DON'T
HAVE THE
GUTS
WITHOUT
50 OF YOUR
BROTHERS
TO BACK
YOU UP?!



TAKAKO!!

OH NO! IF HE
GETS SERIOUS
THIS COULD
TURN INTO A
BLOODBATH!



WHAT
IS THE
MATTER?

WHAT
IS HE
THINKING?

NOW, IF YOU
WON'T COME
TO ME, GUESS
I'LL HAVE TO
SWITCH TO
PLAN B

WELL
THEN

400

YEEEE

UNRA...

HOLD!!

B-BACK
OFF...!!
BACK!
BACK!







GO BACK
TO BE NO
A WOMAN



TOO MANY
DOUBTS

ANYONE
WITH DOUBT
IN THEIR
HEART HAS
NO BUSINESS
WEARING A
WARRIOR'S
CLOTH - OR
RISING INTO
BATTLE



I'M
DETERMINED
TO TAKE
MISANA'S
PLACE AS
"RAIKOU"

YOU...
YOU SAY SO
BUT
STILL!



SHOOT
THE
DEMON!
HURRY!

RAIKOU!
WHAT
ARE YOU
WAITING
FOR?





DRAW!



THEY
WOULDN'T

HUH?!



WHAT?!



RAIKU-SAMA
IS OUT THERE!
DO YOU INTEND
TO SHOOT HIM
AS WELL?!

MY
LORDS
WAIT!
GET UP
YOUR



I WILL
NOT!



YOU ARE
IN THE
WAY
SERVANT

MOVE



BESIDES
YOUR
EFFORTS
ARE IN
VAIN



WAIT...
NO!



FLASH



GRIND

NO!
SALVATORS!

ANGELS
COME THIS
FAR FOR
YOU AND
YOU'RE...





FIRE!



HIKARU-SAMAI



KARAO...
AHAND...
HEH
SORRY
GUYS

**TAKA-
TOKI!!!!**







plp



plp



THE
DEMON IS
FALLEN!!

HUZZAH!!



WHAT..?

STAY
BACK!!



DIDNT
YOU
HEAR
ME?



I TOLD
YOU TO
STAY
AWAY
FROM
HIM.





DEMON-
HUNTING IS A NUISANCE
TO MUCH
RATHER
STAY AWAY
FROM.



DO YOU
LIKE
HUNTING
DEMONS?



HNT



WELL,
THAT
WAS
QUITE
THE
LET
DOWN



RAIKOJI I
EXPECTED
HIM TO PUT
ON A SHOW.

HUH?

WHO MY
CLAN IS
NOT BUSHI.

EXACTLY
ESPECIALLY
WHEN THERE
ARE SO MANY
OUT THERE
WHO LEAVE IT
THE CHOICE
OF THAT
SORT OF
THING.

SO YOU
INTEND TO
SUPPORT THAT
BE KILLED
THE DEMONS?
THE
ACCOMPLISH
MENT
WILL
BE BETTER
AND
BETTER.

THE
DEMON
IS NEAR
THAT IS
ALL THAT
MATTERS.



I SAY IF THEY
WANT IT
THAT MUCH,
LET THEM
HAVE IT.

...NEVER
EVEN
HESITATED
TO JUMP
BETWEEN
ME AND
ALL THOSE
ARROWS...

YOU...

TAKA-
TORI...

THIS...

THIS
CAN'T BE
HAPPENING!

...AND YOU
FINALLY
CALLED ME
BY MY NAME,
AND NOW
YOU'RE...!





DAMMIT
CAN'T
KOPF
CAN'T
SEE

PLEASE DON'T
YOU
RECOGNIZE
ME?



HKA
RU
YOU
THERE?

SEEE
SEEE
SEEE



NO
TAKATOU
PLEASE
HANG IN
THERE
DON'T DIE
PLEASE
DON'T DIE



I'M SO SORRY!
I WISH THIS
HAD NEVER
HAPPENED!
IF ONLY I'D
NEVER LEFT
FATHER'S
ESTATE!

I WISH I'D
NEVER
MET
YOU!!





HERE.

I'M RIGHT
HERE,
TAKATOKI.

I'M NOT GOING
ANYWHERE.



TAKATOKI!!



TAKATOKI!!

TAKATOKI!
ANSWER
ME!



NOOOOOO!!!





*S-STAY
BACK...*

HIS PRESENCE
ALONE WAS
OVERWHELMING

I CAN
STILL SEE
HIM EVERY
CORNER
OF HIS
FACE
BLINDED
INTO MY
HAND

I
FEARED
HIM

I FEARED
HIM LIKE
A BABE
ABANDONED
AND NAKED
SHOULD
FEAR THE
WOLF

.....



TO FORGIVE
WAS IMPOS-
SIBLE

NO
MATTER
HOW I
TRIED

...I SIMPLY
COULD NOT
FORGIVE
MYSELF.



...IT'S
DAWN.



SEE
THE SUN
BARELY
TOUCHES
THE
HORIZON

I'LL WAIT
A LITTLE
LONGER



KARAKO WILL
ONLY SLOW
HER DOWN
MAKE THEM A
LITTLE LATE





UNFORTUNATE

THE FORTUNATE



A DISAP-
POINTING
FAILURE ON
MY PART TO
BE SURE

SO RAKOU
HAS
SURVIVED?



Rai

AH,
WELL...

THERE WILL
BE A NEXT
TIME.



YPS
© 2000

FOR NOW
IS ONLY THE
BEGINNING

AND THE
SEASIN TO
WASH THE
PAST AWAY

RETURNING TO THE
PAST AND COME
AROUND AGAIN
AND AGAIN AND
AGAIN SLOWLY
LIFE FELL BACK
INTO ITS NORMAL
PATTERN.



BOTH
GOOD
AND
BAD



RET...

THERE ARE
SOME THINGS
THAT WILL
ALWAYS
REMAIN





LIKE THE
FLOWERS
AND INSECTS
WHOSE LIVES
END WITH
THE ADVENT
OF WINTER...

NISAMA'S
HEALTH
FARES NO
BETTER



NISAMA
JUST KEEPS
FADING AND
FADING

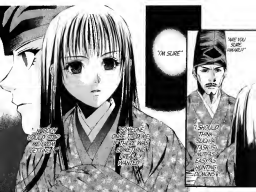


WAS NOT TOO CERTAIN
MYSELF, HOWEVER
CERTAIN PARTIES INSIST
THAT IT HOLDS THE
KEY TO RESTORING
THE CITY'S GLORY
AND BRINGS EVERYONE
TOGETHER

"WHAT IS
THAT...?"

UNDERSTAND
EITHER, I WILL
FIND THIS
MAGAZINE
AND BRING IT
HERE"

"MAGAZINE"...?





TAKE
CARE.



YOU TAKE
CARE OF
YOURSELF TOO,
NITSAMA.

I
WILL.



YES.



AH,
FORGIVE
ME, I
MEAN,
"BAROU-
SAMA?"



ARE YOU
READY,
HIRABU-
SAMA?



LET'S GO.

OTOM ZOHNY / END